

Valley, Kenya (c.  $0^{\circ} 45' S.$ ,  $36^{\circ} 25' E.$ ). The bird was ringed and measured, and then photographed by Dr. E. D. Steel; the bill from feathers was 53 mm, wing 111 mm (flattened but lateral curvature not straightened), and it weighed 110 g at 10.30 hrs. local time. On release the bird flew off strongly. Eight pin-like feathers are visible on the right side of the tail in the photograph.

I can trace only one previous record from Africa, that of V. G. L. van Someren (*Jl E. Africa Uganda nat. Hist. Soc.*: No. 35, 1929) of "a fine male in full plumage" which he shot on the Juba River sometime between 1920 and 1923. The Naivasha bird would seem to be the first record for Kenya and only the second for Africa. According to Vaurie 1965, (*The Birds of the Palearctic Fauna*, Non-Passeriformes) the Pintail Snipe winters "from southeastern China and Formosa south to the Indo Chinese countries and Malaya, India south to Ceylon and the Maldives, and the Sundas east occasionally to Celebes;" he then adds "also to northeastern Africa", however, Dr. Vaurie informs me that he was referring to van Someren's record when he wrote this phrase.

## Gambian observations, winter 1946-47

Sir A. Landsborough Thomson remarks (1966, *Ibis* 108: 281-282) on the paucity of published records from The Gambia before the present decade. I was resident in Bathurst from October 1946 to April 1947 and I have some unpublished records from that area, the majority from the Kombos. The "Stink corner" marsh, which dried out early in March, lay between the Fajara and Yundum roads at their junction about two miles west of Denton bridge. I understand it has now been filled in.

*Hagedashia hagedash* West African Hadada. Cawkell & Moreau (1963, *Ibis* 105: 156-178) state it is no longer common. In 1947 a pair was seen regularly at "Stink corner" marsh from January to early March. Frequently seen at pools along the dried up bed of the River Sando during March. Also recorded at Bald Cape on 12th January, at Brufut on 8th February, and at Serekunda on 10th March, 1947.

*Falco chiquera* Red-necked Kestrel. Two records only, one at "Stink corner" marsh on 17th January and one at Serekunda on 1st March, 1947.

*Leucopoliis marginatus* White-fronted Sand-plover. In postscript to C & M (1963, *Ibis* 105: 156-178) it is stated that two seen on the dunes in May, 1962, were the first records for The Gambia. I have records of two on the sandy shore above high tide mark about a mile to the north of Barra Point on 25th and 26th January, 1947, and one at the same place on 7th April.

*Hirundo smithii* Wire-tailed Swallow. On 9th February, 1947, a good close view was obtained of five amongst a small flock of *Hirundo lucida* on telegraph wires along the road between Denton Bridge and "Stink corner" marsh.

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